

increments, very slenderly articulated together and to the bulb-like bud from which the season's plant grows. It is very difficult to secure specimens with the root-stock, as it breaks off very easily, and leaves so small a scar that I think even an acute botanist would not suspect its existence. Also, the root stock grows very deep, from 8 in. to two feet.

Now, perhaps you know all this already; if so, I beg pardon, for intruding; if not, I will send you specimens with root-stock on.

Very truly
Geo. R. Kleberger.

Weaverville, Cal.,
May 9, 1880.

Prof. Sereno Watson,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir: Your Revision of Liliaceae arrived duly, accompanied by several others of your pamphlets. Please accept thanks.

I have observed something new - at least to me - in regard to our *Erythronium* here. If I have determined it correctly, it is *E. grandiflorum* & varieties albiflorum and smithii. It grows in great profusion here, on the foothills and mountain-

side, in sunshine and shade. The leaves vary from strongly mottled to perfectly free from mottles; from obovate-oblanccolate to oblong-lanceolate; from undulated margins to not undulated. The lobes of the perianth vary from $\frac{3}{4}$ in. to $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. long; from hardly at all revolute, ^{soon after opening,} to very strongly revolute as the flower grows old; from almost pure white, to creamy-white, creamy-yellow, and light purple, or a mixture of two or more of these. In nearly all cases, they are marked at the base with yellow or orange streaks. The ovaries are not ripened

yet but the largest I have seen are not more than 7 lines long. The stigmas are revolute. All the variations observed seem to be independent of sunshine and shade.

The flowers vary in number from 1 to 3; I have seen none among hundreds of specimens with more than three; commonly one, frequently two, rarely three.

But the discovery: You describe the roots, - or root-parts of *Erythronium* stems, - as bulbs or corms. Now, our *Erythronium* has an oblique, somewhat spiral rootstock, composed of flat, disk-like annual